

PLAN FOR BIG FIGHT

Direct Legislation Men Caucus

Caucus Names Executive Committee and Four Floor Leaders.

To direct the fight for direct legislation bills in the house today an executive committee and three floor leaders who will lead the debate in the open were appointed at a secret caucus of twenty friends of the initiative and referendum measures at a meeting held in one of the house chambers yesterday afternoon. The floor leaders are: Governor Teats of Tacoma, George L. Derman of Spokane, and Hugh C. Todd of Whitman. The executive committee is: H. B. Buchanan of King, chairman of the caucus yesterday afternoon; J. W. Caulkner of Okanogan, Edward Johnson of Douglas, Lorenzo Dow of Pierce and J. B. Boyle of Snohomish.

The direct legislation men in the house are expecting a hard fight on the bill today. There will be two reports when it reported out. The majority report carries a large number of amendments which the friends of the bill say are intended to defeat its purpose. The most important of the proposed changes being the cutting of the section which provides for the initiating of laws by the people. No objection is made to the referring of laws to the people by the legislature.

The direct legislation men say that they are "loaded for bear" but express themselves as "resting on their arms" and will not attempt to start trouble. They expect their opponents to move the adoption of the majority report and if this action is taken trouble will begin, which is expected to last the greater part of the day. The minority wants the bill passed to second reading and then to the rules committee, believing that it will find a place on the calendar in a few days. Then they desire to throw out the matter.

Direct legislation was the important topic of discussion in the corridors last night and the opponents of the bill were carefully watched. Another caucus will be held by the direct legislation men at 8:30 o'clock this morning. Their plans will be carefully gone over and if need be revised to meet changed conditions.